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ABSTRACT

This book offers a critique of intellectuals in U.S. colleges and universities and the consequent decline in the quality of higher education and suggests solutions. Chapter 1, "Two Intellectual Classes," defines the professional intellectuals; writers and editors who work for the mass media, large publishing houses and think tanks; and academic intellectuals, who, it is argued, pretend to teach and pretend to do original important scholarship. Chapter 2, "Academe," describes recent changes in higher education focusing particularly on the financial changes that have "converted institutions into sophisticated megabusiness machines." Chapter 3, "Children Teaching Children," describes the studied neglect by professors of the teaching of students, and suggests ways to produce more teachers. Chapter 4, "The Glass Bead Game," looks at scholarship, publications and the tenure process. Chapter 5, "Hubris," offers an explanation for the ills described in the earlier chapters, ills that are centered on the human weakness of unchecked intellectual arrogance. Chapter 6, "Culprits and Solutions," examines the role of governing boards, trustees, overseers, and regents in the decline in academe as suggests 10 concrete changes to restore integrity to higher education. Included is an appendix listing the members of governing boards at 10 colleges and universities, an index, and extensive sources for each chapter. (JB)

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